

one) was placed in its cage, it seized it across the body as a Jack would a Roach, pressing its fangs deeper and deeper into the animal, and never relaxing its hold, even when the rat died. It then, with extreme caution, without withdrawing its hold, worked the head towards its mouth, and gradually swallowed the prey in short "gulps" or bolts. Five or six persons watched the process in perfect silence, which did not appear to incommode or annoy the snake.

4. Descriptions of eight new Australian Land-Shells.

By JOHN BRAZIER, C.M.Z.S.

[Received October 11, 1871].

1. *HELIX (HADRA) DARWINI*.

Shell umbilicated, depressedly globose, very thin, finely granulated and radiately striated; spire moderately elevated, obtuse; whorls 5, slowly increasing, convex, last roundly convex, slightly descending in front, dirty yellow; base convex, sculptured the same as the upper surface; umbilicus rather small, deep; aperture diagonal, ovately lunate; peristome very little reflected, white; margins approximating and joined by a thin callus, columellar margin reflected and half covering the umbilicus.

Diam. maj. 7, min. $5\frac{1}{2}$, alt. 4 lines.

Hab. North coast of Australia (*coll. Brazier*).

I received two specimens of this species from a friend who collected them in the far north of Australia; but the precise locality was not sent with them. It is allied to *Helix forsteriana*, Pfr., from North-east Australia.

2. *HELIX (HADRA) STEPHENSONIANA*.

Shell umbilicated, turbinately globose, somewhat pellucid, of a fine straw-colour, faintly and obliquely striated, rather puckered at the suture; spire subconoid; whorls $5\frac{1}{2}$, moderately convex, last convex and inflated, deflected in front; base convex; aperture oblique, lunately circular; peristome light pink, straight; margins approximating, upper margin rather thickened and expanded, columellar margin arcuate and reflexed, covering half the umbilicus, which is deep and moderately large.

Diam. maj. 9, min. $7\frac{1}{2}$, alt. 6 lines.

Hab. Port Denison, Queensland, North-east coast of Australia (*coll. Brazier*). Rare.

This species is of a fine straw-yellow colour on the last whorl, the other whorls being nearly white; the lip is of a light pink colour. I only know of one specimen, which is in my own cabinet.

3. *HELIX (HADRA) BENNETTI*.

Shell umbilicated, depressedly globose, very thin, finely rugosely striated and minutely granulated, dark-yellowish horny; spire rather

conoid, obtuse; whorls 6, moderately convex, rapidly increasing, last convex and inflated in front, slightly descending; umbilicus large, deep, and slanting; aperture oblique, lunately ovate, interior of aperture of a bright flesh tinge; peristome simple, white, straight; margins approximating and joined by a thin callus, right margin dilated, columellar margin broadly expanded and reflected, covering one third of the umbilicus.

Diam. maj. 8, min. $6\frac{1}{2}$, alt. 5 lines.

Hab. Ipswich, Queensland, inland 50 miles from Brisbane: rare (*coll. Brazier*).

I possess two specimens of this species, which approaches near to *H. prunum*, Fér., from Port Darwin and Port Essington, also to *H. greenhilli*, Cox, from the Dawson River. I have named it with great pleasure in honour of Dr. George Bennett, F.L.S., whose indefatigable exertions in the cause of science have made us acquainted with many new and rare specimens of natural history from Australia and the Polynesian Islands.

4. *HELIX* (*TRACHIA*) *ENDEAVOURENSIS*.

Shell umbilicated, depressed, rather thin, very closely, regularly, and finely striated, shining, pale horny; spire rather prominent; suture slightly impressed; whorls $5\frac{1}{2}$, moderately convex, last roundly convex, inflated and deflexed in front; base convex and striated the same as the upper surface; umbilicus rather wide and deep; aperture oblique, lunately ovate; peristome thickened and reflected, tinged with flesh-colour; margins approximating, right margin expanded, thin, straight, columellar margin reflected a little over the umbilicus.

Diam. maj. 7, min. 5, alt. $3\frac{1}{2}$ lines.

Hab. Endeavour River, north coast of Australia (*coll. Brazier*).

There is only one specimen of this species that I know of, and in my collection; it is of a much larger size than *H. torresiana*, Homb. et Jacq., and the sculpture is also very fine, whereas in the species of the French authors the sculpture is coarse.

5. *HELIX* (*CAMÆNA*) *AUREEDENSIS*.

Shell umbilicated, depressedly globose, rather solid, very finely obliquely striated, and, under the lens finely granulated, dark chestnut; suture ornamented with a fine white thread, and also a broad dirty white undefined zone round the umbilicus; spire broadly conoid, obtuse; whorls 6 to $6\frac{1}{2}$, convex, the five upper whorls of a reddish chestnut, the last increasing in size, rounded and deflected in front; base convex; aperture diagonally ovately lunate, brownish white within; peristome straight, ivory-white, slightly thickened and reflected; margins approximating, right margin expanded, columellar margin arcuate and reflexed, concealing nearly half of the umbilicus, which is deep.

Diam. maj. $1\frac{1}{2}$, min. $1\frac{1}{4}$, alt. 1 inch.

Hab. Aureed Island, Torres Strait, North coast of Australia (*coll. Brazier and Hargraves*).

This species I have seen in some of the Australian collections

labelled as a variety of *H. incei*, Pfr., but *H. incei* has no white thread-like line at the suture as in the present species.

6. *HELIX (HYGROMIA) BEDNALLI*.

Shell perforated, rather conoidly globose, very thin, fragile, obliquely rugose at the upper part, granulated under the lens, sub-diaphanous, light horny green, with a fine reddish ring encircling the suture, and a rather broad one of the same colour encircling the perforation; spire conoid, somewhat obtuse; whorls 5 to $5\frac{1}{2}$, moderately convex, the last very much inflated, rounded; base convex, much smoother than the upper surface; aperture obliquely lunar, rather large; peristome thin, of a pinkish colour; margins distant, right expanded, columellar margin reflected and covering one quarter of the perforation.

Diam. maj. 8, min. $6\frac{1}{2}$, alt. 5 lines.

Hab. Near Adelaide, South Australia (*Waterhouse and Bednall*; in *South Australian Museum and coll. Brazier*).

This species I received from my two friends Messrs. Waterhouse and Bednall, under the name of *Helix adelaidæ*, Pfr. The *Helix adelaidæ* is a small depressed species, keeled, and with the umbilicus perspective. *Helix bednalli* I have compared with some hundreds of *H. grayi*, Pfr., and *H. jervisensis*, Quoy and Gaimard, and find sufficient characters to warrant it to rank as a distinct species. The note sent by Mr. Waterhouse with his specimens states that it is a species very rarely obtained in a good state of preservation.

7. *HELIX (CHAROPA) SUBDEPRESSA*.

Shell umbilicated, depressed, nearly discoid, thin, closely covered with fine silky striæ, the interstices under the lens with still finer striæ, rather oblique, shining white; spire flat, suture channelled; whorls $5\frac{1}{2}$, rather convex, last angled and descending in front; umbilicus wide, rather perspective, and rounded at the bottom, equaling more than half of the diameter; basal whorl convex, with striæ the same as on the upper surface, and running into the umbilicus; aperture nearly vertical; peristome simple, acute, triangularly ovate; margins distant, right straight, slightly expanded, columellar margin not reflected.

Diam. maj. $1\frac{1}{2}$, min. 1, alt. $\frac{1}{2}$ line; diam. of umbilicus $\frac{3}{4}$ line.

Hab. Snowy River, Gipps Land, Victoria (*Mr. W. Kershaw*; *coll. Brazier*).

This interesting little species is pure white, and is found in the snowy Australian region that divides New South Wales from Victoria.

8. *BULIMUS (LIPARUS) KERSHAWI*.

Shell imperforate, ovate, thin, diaphanous, shining, dark yellowish brown, marked with numerous longitudinal and irregular dark yellow and brown lines, some broad and some very narrow, rather running one into the other; and under the lens are to be seen longitudinal and transverse small granulations; spire moderately conical, rather obtuse at the apex; suture crenulated; whorls 5, convex, the last inflated,

equalling more than one half of the length of the whole shell ; aperture broadly ovate, interior bluish white ; peristome simple, acute, straight, thin, the anterior and outer margins arched ; columella straight, nearly vertical above, slightly expanded and reflected, with a thin deposit of callus on the columellar side, and joined at the upper part of the peristome.

Length 2, breadth $1\frac{1}{8}$, alt. 1 ; aperture $1\frac{1}{4}$ long, breadth $\frac{5}{8}$ inch.

Hab. Snowy River, Gipps Land, Victoria (*Mr. W. Kershaw*).

This fine species I have named in honour of its discoverer, Mr. W. Kershaw of Victoria, to whom I am indebted for a specimen. It approaches in appearance to *B. larreyi*, Brazier, and *B. atomatus*, Gray. It differs from those species in not having the dark spots and zigzag lines that are so characteristic in them.

5. Description of a new Species of Fruit-Pigeon from the Fiji Islands. By JOHN GOULD, F.R.S.

[Received November 7, 1871.]

The beautiful bird which I have now the pleasure of exhibiting to the Meeting, and which I propose to call *Chrysæna victor*, is the second species of the genus, of which *C. luteovirens* is the type. For the loan of one of the two specimens exhibited I am indebted to Mr. James Gardner of Oxford Street, and for the use of the other to the Trustees of the Derby Museum at Liverpool, through the kind intercession of their Curator Mr. T. J. Moore. The latter specimen is so similar to the former in colouring and general appearance as to induce the belief that the two birds are of the same age and adult males. How evident it is, from the discovery of this extremely conspicuous and beautiful Pigeon, that the acquisition of new species is not yet at an end, and that such islands as those composing the Fiji group, and hundreds of others dotted over the Polynesian region, will yet afford ornithological and other treasures of natural history which have not as yet met the gaze of civilized and scientific men!

I append a description of this new species, and shall take an early opportunity of publishing a copy of the drawing now shown of the London and Liverpool birds in one of my publications—the ‘Birds of Asia,’ or the ‘Supplement to the Birds of Australia.’

CHRYSÆNA VICTOR, Gould.

Size. About, or perhaps a trifle larger than, that of *C. luteovirens*.

Colour. The entire surface of the body, both above and below, a lovely carmineous-orange, while the head and throat, as if in direct contrast to the brilliant colouring of the body, is of a dull silvery pea-green ; under surface of the wings rich pure yellow, the primaries becoming orange on the upper surface of their outer webs, and their shafts dark olive above.

Total length 7 inches ; bill $\frac{3}{4}$, wing $4\frac{1}{4}$, tail $2\frac{1}{2}$, tarsi $\frac{3}{4}$.